

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A contents transmission/reception system,
comprising:
a transmission device; and
at least one reception device that receives contents from the transmission device;
wherein the transmission device and the reception device are physically connected to an identical local area network, or are not physically connected to the identical local area network but virtually existing in an identical sub-net,

the transmission device has:

an authentication and key exchange processing unit configured to carry out an authentication and key exchange processing with a reception device that made a contents transmission request;

a device identification information transmission request unit configured to transmit a device identification information request to the reception device, such that the reception device transmits a device identification information;

a device identification information registration unit configured to register the device identification information transmitted from the reception device by an upper level protocol above a network layer;

a device identification information search unit configured to search out the device identification information corresponding to an IP (Internet Protocol) address of the reception device by a protocol on the network layer, from a network to which the reception device is connected:

a comparison judgement unit configured to judge whether the device identification information searched out by the device identification information search

unit and the device identification information registered by the device identification information registration unit coincide or not; and

a distribution condition determination unit configured to change a distribution condition for contents to be transmitted to the reception device that made the contents transmission request, according to a judgement result obtained by the comparison judgement unit; and

the reception device has:

a contents transmission request unit configured to make the contents transmission request to the transmission device; and

a device identification information transmission unit configured to transmit the device identification information of the reception device to the transmission device, upon receiving the device identification information request from the transmission device.

Claim 2 (Original): The contents transmission/reception system of claim 1, wherein the device identification information is a MAC address of a network interface, and the device identification information search unit transmits a MAC address search request by using an IP address of the reception device as a key to a network segment to which the reception device is connected, and receives a MAC address search result.

Claim 3 (Original): The contents transmission/reception system of claim 2, wherein the device identification information search unit searches out the MAC address corresponding to the IP address of the reception device by an ARP (Address Resolution Protocol).

Claim 4 (Original): The contents transmission/reception system of claim 2, wherein the device identification information transmission unit transmits the MAC address to the transmission device by attaching an electronic signature.

Claim 5 (Original): The contents transmission/reception system of claim 4, further comprising a verification unit configured to verify whether the MAC address is altered or not, when the electronic signature is attached to the MAC address;

wherein the device identification information registration unit registers the MAC address only when the verification unit judges that the MAC address is not altered.

Claim 6 (Original): The contents transmission/reception system of claim 1, wherein the authentication and key exchange processing unit carries out the authentication and key exchange processing according to a DTCP (Digital Transmission Contents Protection).

Claim 7 (Original): The contents transmission/reception system of claim 1, wherein the reception device also has:

a reception device side authentication and key exchange processing unit configured to carry out the authentication and key exchange processing with the transmission device;

a network interface unit configured to receive encrypted contents from the transmission device; and

an encryption processing unit configured to decrypt the encrypted contents received by the network interface unit, by using a key exchanged by the reception device side authentication and key exchange processing unit.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A contents transmission device for transmitting contents to at least one reception device, the contents transmission device and the reception device being physically connected to an identical local area network, or being not physically connected to the identical local area network but virtually existing in an identical sub-net, the contents transmission device comprising:

an authentication and key exchange processing unit configured to carry out an authentication and key exchange processing with a reception device that made a contents transmission request;

a device identification information transmission request unit configured to transmit a device identification information request to the reception device, such that the reception device transmits a device identification information;

a device identification information registration unit configured to register the device identification information transmitted from the reception device by an upper level protocol above a network layer;

a device identification information search unit configured to search out the device identification information corresponding to an IP (Internet Protocol) address of the reception device by a protocol on the network layer, from a network to which the reception device is connected;

a comparison judgement unit configured to judge whether the device identification information searched out by the device identification information search unit and the device identification information registered by the device identification information registration unit coincide or not; and

a distribution condition determination unit configured to change a distribution condition for contents to be transmitted to the reception device that made the contents

transmission request, according to a judgement result obtained by the comparison judgement unit.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A contents transmission/reception system,
comprising:

a transmission device; and

at least one reception device that receives contents from the transmission device;

wherein the transmission device and the reception device are physically connected to an identical local area network, or are not physically connected to the identical local area network but virtually existing in an identical sub-net,

a reception device has:

a contents transmission request unit configured to make a contents
transmission request to the transmission device;

a first authentication and key exchange processing unit configured to carry out
an authentication and key exchange processing with the transmission device to which
the contents transmission request is made;

a device identification information transmission request unit configured to
transmit a device identification information request to the transmission device, such
that the transmission device transmits a device identification information;

a device identification information registration unit configured to register the
device identification information transmitted from the transmission device by an
upper level protocol above a network layer;

a device identification information search unit configured to search out the
device identification information corresponding to an IP (Internet Protocol) address of

the transmission device by a protocol on the network layer, from a network to which the transmission device is connected:

a comparison judgement unit configured to judge whether the device identification information searched out by the device identification information search unit and the device identification information registered by the device identification information registration unit coincide or not; and

a reception condition determination unit configured to determine a reception condition for contents to be transmitted from the transmission device to which the contents transmission request is made, according to a judgement result obtained by the comparison judgement unit and the transmission device has:

a device identification information transmission unit configured to transmit the device identification information of the transmission device to the reception device, upon receiving the device identification information request from the reception device;

a second authentication and key exchange processing unit configured to carry out an authentication and key exchange processing with the reception device that made the contents transmission request; and

a contents transmission control unit configured to carry out contents transmission control according to the reception condition determined by the reception condition determination unit.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A contents reception device for receiving contents from a transmission device, the contents retention device and the transmission device being physically connected to an identical local area network or being not physically connected to

the identical local area network but virtually existing in an identical sub-net, the contents reception device comprising:

a contents transmission request unit configured to make a contents transmission request to the transmission device;

an authentication and key exchange processing unit configured to carry out an authentication and key exchange processing with the transmission device to which the contents transmission request is made;

a device identification information transmission request unit configured to transmit a device identification information request to the transmission device, such that the transmission device transmits a device identification information;

a device identification information registration unit configured to register the device identification information transmitted from the transmission device by an upper level protocol above a network layer;

a device identification information search unit configured to search out the device identification information corresponding to an IP (Internet Protocol) address of the transmission device by a protocol on the network layer, from a network to which the transmission device is connected:

a comparison judgement unit configured to judge whether the device identification information searched out by the device identification information search unit and the device identification information registered by the device identification information registration unit coincide or not; and

a reception condition determination unit configured to determine a reception condition for contents to be transmitted from the transmission device to which the contents transmission request is made, according to a judgement result obtained by the comparison judgement unit.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A contents transmission/reception system,
comprising:

a transmission device; and

at least one reception device that receives contents from the transmission device;

wherein the transmission device and the reception device are physically connected to an identical local area network or are not physically connected to the identical local area network but virtually existing in an identical sub-net,

the transmission device has:

a device identification information transmission request unit configured to transmit a device identification information request to a reception device that made a contents transmission request, such that the reception device transmits a device identification information;

a device identification information registration unit configured to register the device identification information transmitted from the reception device by an upper level protocol above a network layer;

an advance notice unit configured to make a device identification information search advance notice, to the reception device;

a device identification information search unit configured to search out the device identification information corresponding to an IP (Internet Protocol) address of the reception device by a protocol on the network layer, from a network to which the reception device is connected;

a comparison judgement unit configured to judge whether the device identification information searched out by the device identification information search

unit and the device identification information registered by the device identification information registration unit coincide or not;

a request response reception judgement unit configured to judge whether a response to the device identification information search advance notice is received or not; and

a distribution condition determination unit configured to determine a distribution condition for contents to be transmitted to the reception device that made the contents transmission request, according to judgement results obtained by the comparison judgement unit and the request response reception judgement unit; and the reception device has:

a device information transmission unit configured to transmit the device identification information of the reception device and a device identification information search advance notice response to the transmission device, upon receiving the device identification information request from the transmission device,

Claim 12 (Original): The contents transmission/reception system of claim 11, wherein the reception device also has:

a device identification information search judgement unit configured to judge whether the device identification information search request from the transmission device is received or not; and

a contents reception control unit configured to prohibit reception of contents from the transmission device when the device identification information search judgement unit judges that the device identification information search request is not received.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A contents transmission device for transmitting contents to at least one reception device, the contents transmission device and the reception device being physically connected to an identical local area network, or being not physically connected to the identical local area network but virtually existing in an identical sub-net, the contents transmission device comprising:

a device identification information transmission request unit configured to transmit a device identification information request to a reception device that made a contents transmission request, such that the reception device transmits a device identification information;

a device identification information registration unit configured to register the device identification information transmitted from the reception device by an upper level protocol above a network layer;

an advance notice unit configured to make a device identification information search advance notice, to the reception device;

a device identification information search unit configured to search out the device identification information corresponding to an IP (Internet Protocol) address of the reception device by a protocol on the network layer, from a network to which the reception device is connected:

a comparison judgement unit configured to judge whether the device identification information searched out by the device identification information search unit and the device identification information registered by the device identification information registration unit coincide or not;

a request response reception judgement unit configured to judge whether a response to the device identification information search advance notice is received or not; and

a distribution condition determination unit configured to determine a distribution condition for contents to be transmitted to the reception device that made the contents transmission request, according to judgement results obtained by the comparison judgement unit and the request response reception judgement unit.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A contents transmission/reception system, comprising:

a transmission device; and

at least one reception device that receives contents from the transmission device;

wherein the transmission device and the reception device are physically connected to an identical local area network or are not physically connected to the identical local area network but virtually existing in an identical sub-net,

the transmission device has:

a device identification information search judgement unit configured to judge whether a device identification information search request from a reception device is received or not; and

a contents transmission control unit configured to prohibit transmission of contents to the reception device when the device identification information search judgement unit judges that the device identification information search request is not received; and

the reception device has:

a contents transmission request unit configured to make a contents transmission request to the transmission device;

an authentication and key exchange processing unit configured to carry out an authentication and key exchange processing with the transmission device to which the contents transmission request is made;

a device identification information transmission request unit configured to transmit the device identification information request to the transmission device, such that the transmission device transmits a device identification information;

a device identification information registration unit configured to register the device identification information transmitted from the reception device by an upper level protocol above a network layer;

an advance notice unit configured to make a device identification information search advance notice, to the transmission device;

a device identification information search unit configured to search out the device identification information corresponding to an IP (Internet Protocol) address of the transmission device by a protocol on the network layer, from a network to which the transmission device is connected;

a comparison judgement unit configured to judge whether the device identification information searched out by the device identification information search unit and the device identification information registered by the device identification information registration unit coincide or not; and

a reception condition determination unit configured to determine a reception condition for contents to be transmitted from the transmission device to which the contents transmission request is made, according to a judgement result obtained by the comparison judgement unit.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): A contents reception device for receiving contents from a transmission device, the contents reception device and the transmission device being physically connected to an identical local area network or being not physically connected to the identical local area network but virtually existing in an identical sub-net, the contents reception device comprising:

a contents transmission request unit configured to make a contents transmission request to the transmission device;

an authentication and key exchange processing unit configured to carry out an authentication and key exchange processing with the transmission device to which the contents transmission request is made;

a device identification information transmission request unit configured to transmit a device identification information request to the transmission device, such that the transmission device transmits a device identification information;

a device identification information registration unit configured to register the device identification information transmitted from the reception device by an upper level protocol above a network layer;

an advance notice unit configured to make a device identification information search advance notice, to the transmission device;

a device identification information search unit configured to search out the device identification information corresponding to an IP (Internet Protocol) address of the transmission device by a protocol on the network layer, from a network to which the transmission device is connected;

a comparison judgement unit configured to judge whether the device identification information searched out by the device identification information search unit and the device

identification information registered by the device identification information registration unit coincide or not; and

a reception condition determination unit configured to determine a reception condition for contents to be transmitted from the transmission device to which the contents transmission request is made, according to a judgement result obtained by the comparison judgement unit.